

Keeping Your School Catholic

Are You Asking the
Right Questions?



Sister Edward William Quinn, IHM

Catholic Identity

*Who do **YOU** say
that I am?*



What Does It Mean to Be "Catholic?"

- It is a place of integral education of the human person through a clear educational project of which Christ is the foundation.
- It is a place with an ecclesial and cultural identity.
- It is a place where the mission of education is a work of love.
- It is a place of service to society.
- It is a place where the above qualities should characterize the community.



**Resurrection School Choir,
Philadelphia**

Giving Witness. . .



- Do you see your school as giving witness?
- Do you think a visitor to your school would sense something special about the purpose of the school?
- Does your school /workplace environment reflect its mission?

You are called
to the ministry
of Religious
education.



Being a Role Model

- You are a "teacher" and as a teacher, you are a role model for all those whom you encounter.
- How do you model those qualities which you want others to reflect?



What does it mean to be a Role Model of Faith?

- *What qualities should you be modeling?*
 - Reflect on your efforts to model these qualities.
 - Share your reflections with those with whom you minister.



TEACH AS JESUS TAUGHT



Jesus. . .

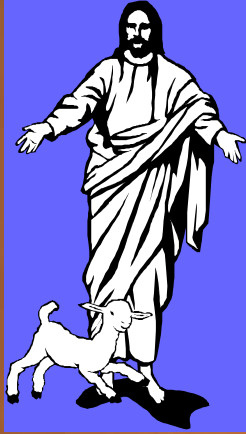
- ✚ *Knew his subject matter*
- ✚ *Was concerned about a person's self image.*
- ✚ *Listened to others and adapted to His listeners.*
- ✚ *Taught in a practical and incisive manner.*
- ✚ *Taught with authority and discipline.*
- ✚ *Was completely accurate.*
- ✚ *Was prepared to teach.*
- ✚ *Used drill and review.*
- ✚ *Taught hard things by action, by hard questions.*
- ✚ *Used His natural talents.*
- ✚ *Had leadership. . .shared his lessons*
- ✚ *Took time to rest, renew and restore Himself.*

Jesus Taught in a Practical, Clear and Insightful Manner

- He used stories (parables) to teach.
- He knew what His learners were able to understand.
- He understood "learning styles" and "multiple intelligences."

How do you meet the learning styles and intelligences of your students?

Do you make an effort to do this?



Teaching As Jesus Taught

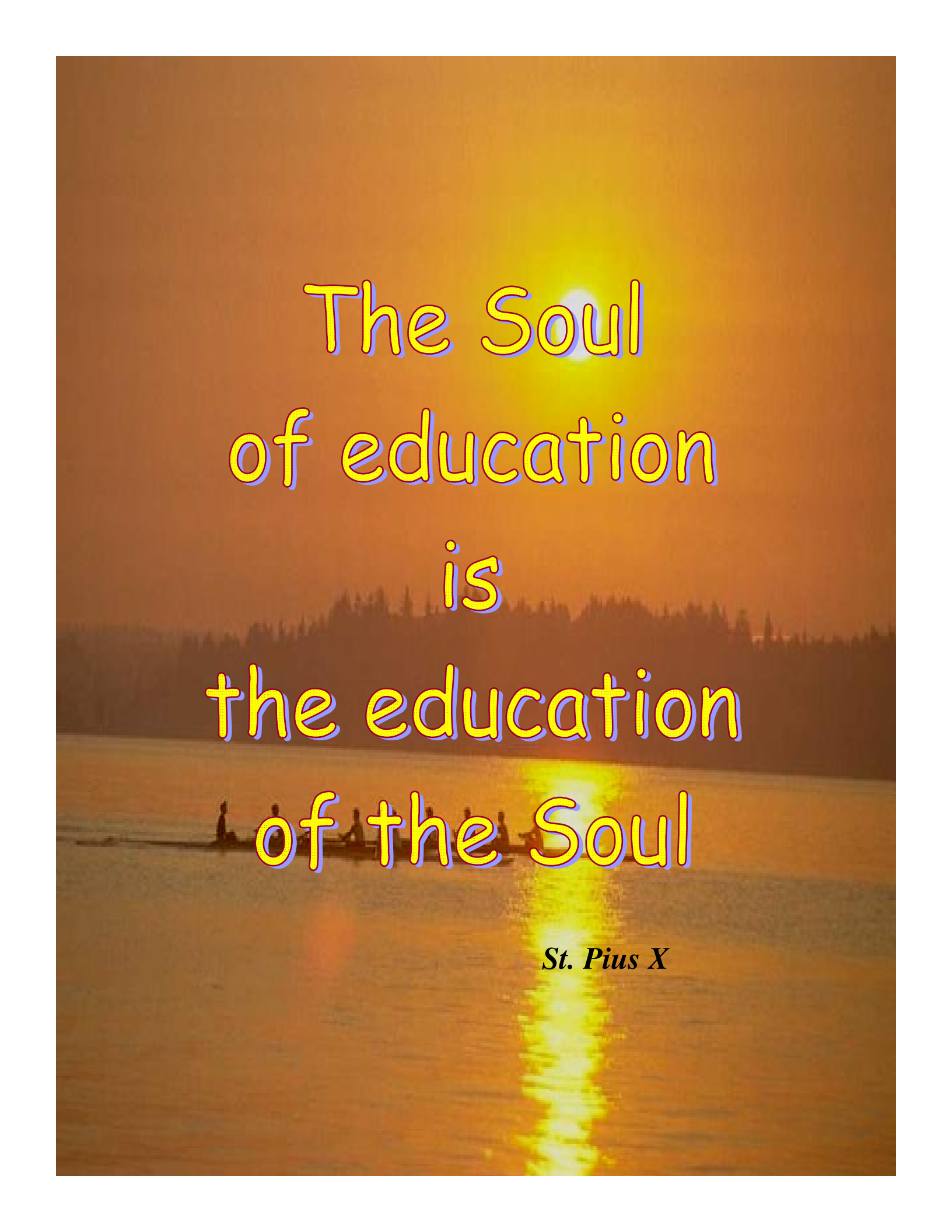
- What are the qualities you would like to have others remember you by?
- How can reflecting on the qualities of Jesus—the Perfect Teacher—help you to become a better person?

Can a blind person lead
a blind person? Will
not both fall into a pit?

Lk 7:39



Are you prepared
spiritually to
address the needs of
your students?



The Soul
of education
is
the education
of the Soul

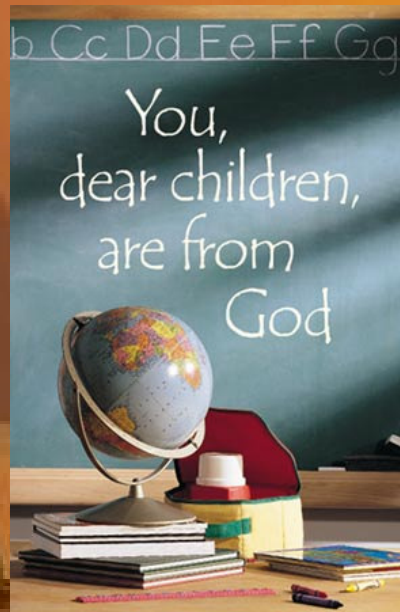
St. Pius X

Who do YOU say that I am?



How well do you walk in Jesus'
shoes? Do others see you as a
"person of faith?"

What Makes This School Catholic?



Prayer
Environment
Practices

What Would Jesus Do?



Teach the young to
become people of
prayer.

Could you not keep watch for one hour?

Mk

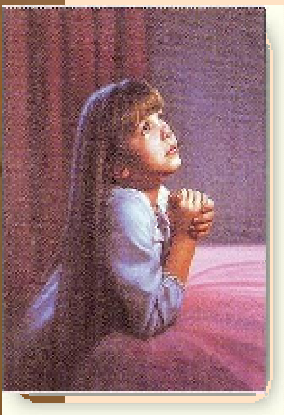


Is prayer valued as important
in your school/workplace?

Prayer—not just saying
prayers.

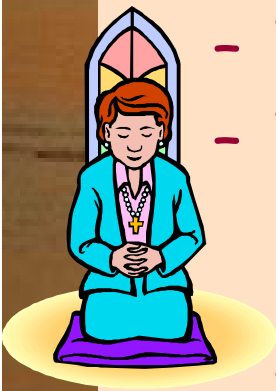
Prayer in school

- Sharing a life of prayer and a habit of prayer with students in a Catholic School is essential.
 - *Recommendations for prayers during the school day:*
 - *Time-honored traditions*
 - "Blessing the Hour."
 - Prayer before Class
 - Remembering the Deceased
 - Remembering those in need
 - Short Prayers
 - Prayers of Special Patrons
 - *Special Times of Prayer*
 - Feast of the School Patron
 - Times of Special Need



Understanding Prayer

- It is important to help students to understand the prayers that they are saying.
- Have you heard any of the following phrases?
 - "Hey all, Mary, full of grays. . ."
 - "Dolores is whifty."
 - "Bless it argue among women. . ."
 - "Bless it is the fruit of Guy's whom Jesus."
- "May the souls of the faithful department get dressed in peas."



A Student's Illustration of the "Our Father"



*Our Father
who art in
heaven. . .*

*Haloed be
thy name. .*

GOD

Who do YOU say that I am?

Is your classroom/workspace a
place where prayer is valued?
Do you value prayer in your
personal life?



Active participation in the liturgical life of the Church is essential



- Sacramental Preparation
- Eucharistic Celebrations
- Parish Prayer Celebrations

We need to give witness!!

Be a support to
those who prepare.

...



Celebrate the Liturgical Seasons

- Advent



- Christmas



- Lent

- Marian Celebrations



- Saints



- Ordinary Time



Who do YOU say
that I am?



Are you an active participant in
the liturgical life of the
Church?

Create
a Prayerful
Environment--
Draw from a Rich
Heritage of Prayer



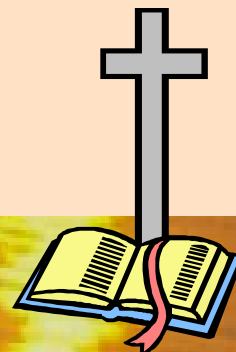
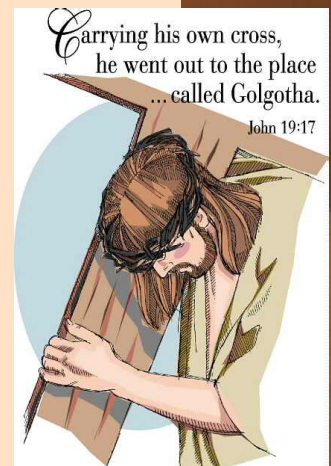
Environment



Is Faith an important part
of your classroom/workspace environment?

What should be visible in the classroom?

- Crucifix
- Bible
- Statues
- Religious Bulletin Boards
- Religious posters
- Prayer corner



Who do YOU say
that I am?



**Does the environment of
your school give witness
to the fact that this is a
Catholic place?**

What Makes This School Catholic?

- See how **these** Christians love one another.



- This Is Holy Ground . .

Is a lamp brought in to
be placed under a
bushel basket or under
a bed, and not to be
placed on a lamp stand?
Mk 4: 21



How well do you spread
the "Good News" of
Catholic Education?

Do you say these things
on your own or is it
because others have told
you about me?



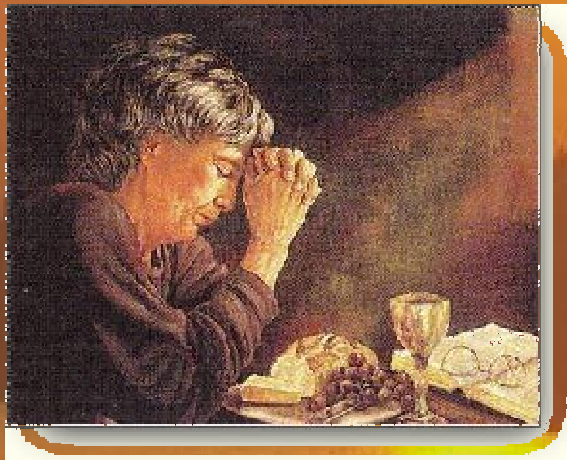
Are you committed to
Church ministry?
Why?

Practices

- Courtesy and respect reflect a Christian atmosphere in the classroom.
- Attention to neatness and good order provides the teacher with an opportunity to create a climate reflective of Christian values.

Why do you call me
"Lord, Lord, but do
not do what I
command?"

Lk 7:46



Students are quick to
observe sincerity—it is much
better to teach students to
"Do as I do" than to teach
them to "Do as I say"

Who do **YOU** say
that I am?



How well do **you** model the
practice of faith?

What Memories Do You Have?

- Reflect on the memories you have of your own days as an elementary school student.
 - What are your happiest memories?
 - Who are the people you remember the most?
 - From whom did you learn the most?
 - What motivated you to become involved in the ministry of Catholic Education?

Create
a Faith Community
Centered on
Dignity and Respect



Knowing the mission

Sharing the mission

- Do I give witness to the phrase from Scripture, "See how these Christians love one another?"
- How do I show respect for those with whom I share this ministry?
- Is this evident to my students? To others?



The background of the slide is a photograph of a sunset over a body of water. The sun is a bright yellow orb in the upper center, with its light reflecting as a shimmering path down the water. In the middle ground, a rowing team of about ten people is silhouetted against the water, moving from left to right. The far shore is lined with a dark forest of trees. The overall color palette is warm, dominated by oranges, yellows, and browns.

EXAMINE YOUR MISSION STATEMENT

Read Your School's Mission Statement

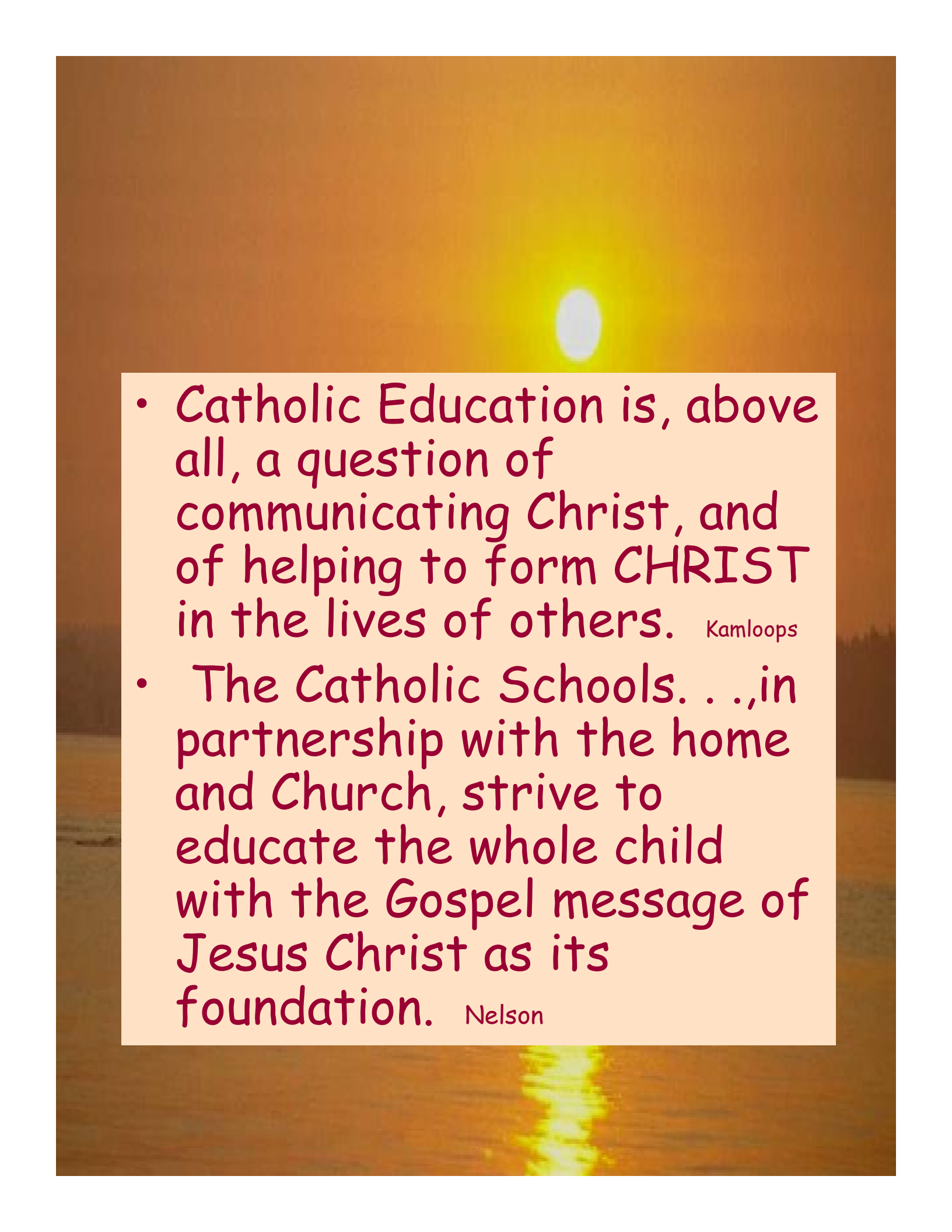
- If someone were to accuse you of leading others to give witness to the statements found therein, would you be found guilty?

*The spirit of an IHM
school
calls each person to a life
of...*

*+Prayer,
+Love and Service,
+Courtesy and Hospitality*

*In this school
Jesus is the Center
And Mary, the Model*



- 
- Catholic Education is, above all, a question of communicating Christ, and of helping to form CHRIST in the lives of others. Kamloops
 - The Catholic Schools. . . ,in partnership with the home and Church, strive to educate the whole child with the Gospel message of Jesus Christ as its foundation. Nelson

Reflect on the Mission Statement

- With the children
 - *How can you encourage them to live the ideal of the parish mission?*
- With others sharing the mission
 - *How can you affirm their efforts to share the mission with others?*
- With the parents
 - *How can you work together to support the mission?*

If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? . . . If you lend money to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you?

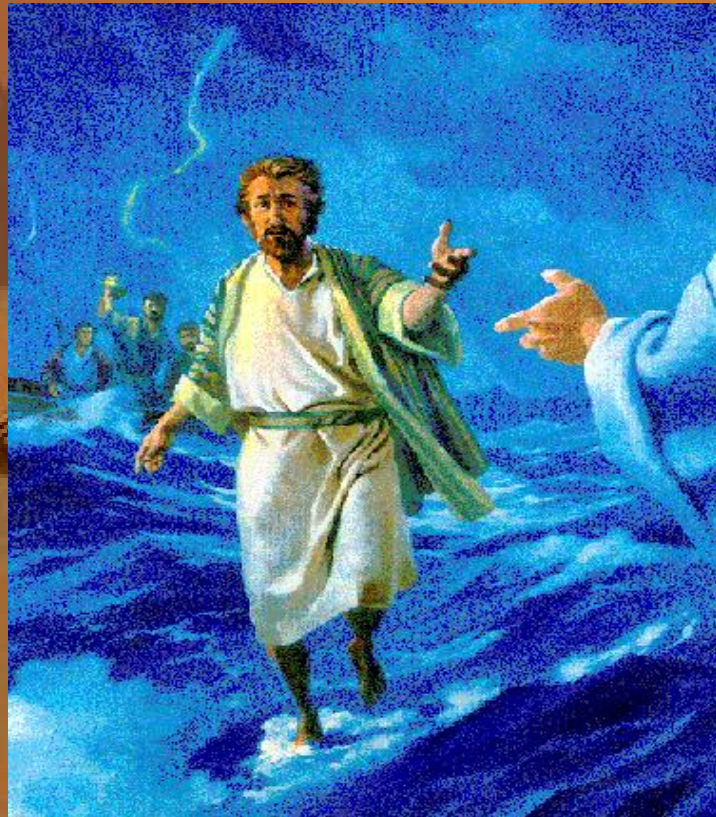
Lk 6: 32-34



Dedication is a
hallmark of Catholic
educational ministry.

Have I been with you
for so long a time
and still you do
not know me?

Jn 14:9



What do you wish me to do for you?

Mk 10:30, Lk 18:41

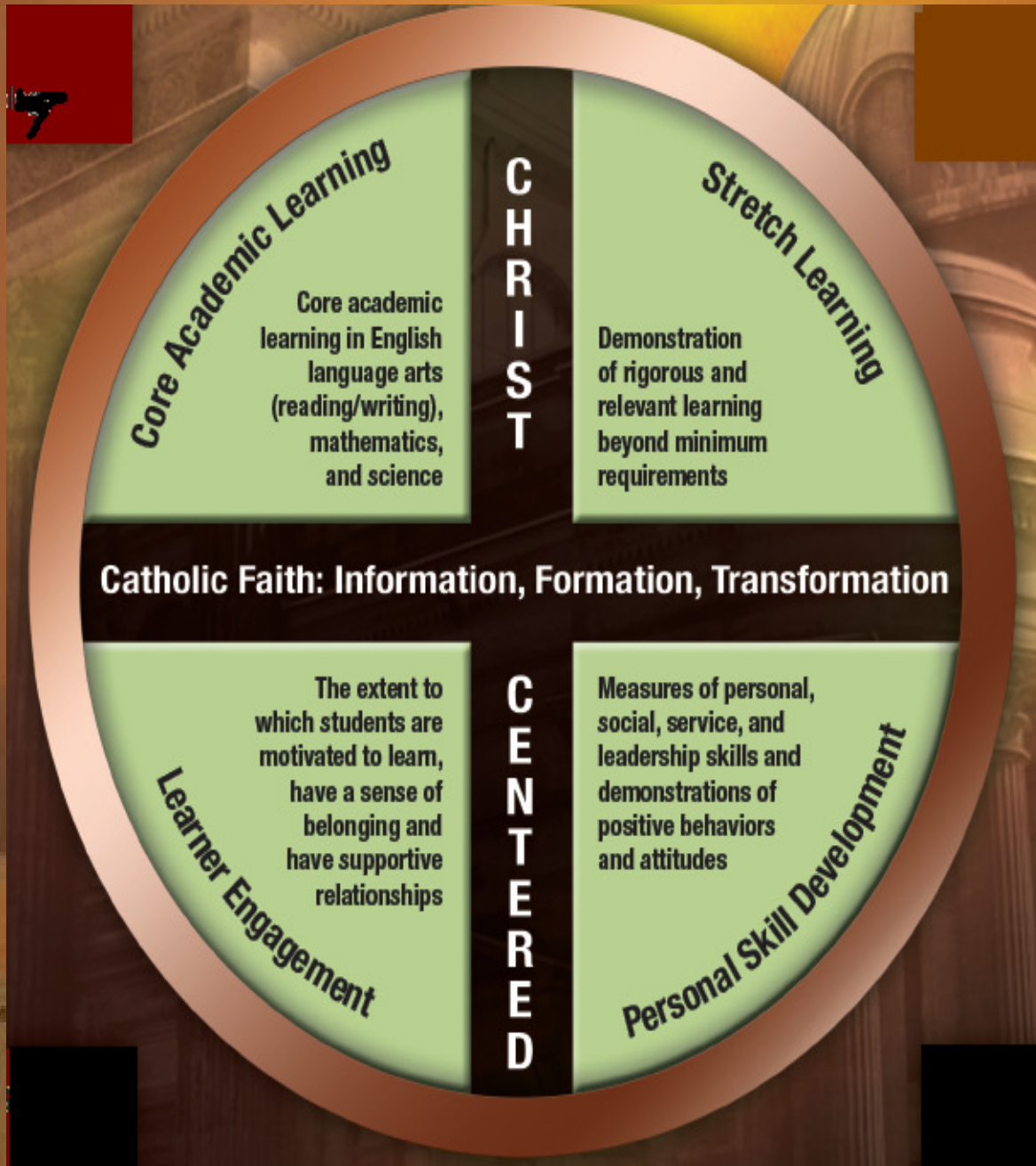


What are your goals for
the faith formation of your
students? Do the parents
and parishioners know and
support your goals?

Keeping Faith in the Curriculum



The "Unwritten"
Curriculum
The Written Curriculum



The Written Curriculum

- Integrate faith values into every aspect of the Curriculum
- Knowledge set in the context of faith becomes wisdom and life vision.
- In a Catholic School, the academic subjects do not present only knowledge to be attained, but also values to be acquired and truths to be discovered.

Keeping Faith Values in the Curriculum

- The integration of faith and values throughout the curriculum helps students to understand the relationship that exists between faith and culture.
- For the Catholic School teacher this should be a way of thinking—How can this lesson be taught in the context of faith values?

Through education
the Church seeks
to prepare its members
to proclaim the Good News
and
to translate
this proclamation
into action.



To Teach As Jesus Did

Do You Remember?

- *Who Made You?*
 - *God made me*
- *Why did God make you?*
 - *God made me to know Him, to love Him, and to serve Him in this world and to be happy with Him forever in heaven.*
- *What is a sacrament?*
 - *A sacrament is an outward sign instituted by Christ to give grace.*

Our Personal Heritage



- ***We bring to our community our own personal heritage***

Why does this generation seek a sign?

Mk 8:12



Our society does
not always respect
faith ideals.

JESUS

"Care for Learning Means Loving"

Wisdom 6:17

The Catholic School is a school for all, with special attention to those who are weakest.



Whose image is this and whose inscription?

Mt: 22:30, Mk 12:16,

Lk 20:24



Jesus taught His followers
good citizenship. Students
in a Catholic School should
be taught the qualities of a
good citizen.

The Unwritten Curriculum

- Parish/Diocesan History
- School Patron
- Respect for Life;
respect for others
- Charism/Mission of the
School

Do you make an effort
to make sure your
students understand
faith instruction?

- Did these students understand?
- *"The people who followed the Lord were called the 12 opposites."*
- *"The first Protestant was St. John. He was a Baptist."*

Did these students really get the message?



- *The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. Afterward, Moses went up to Mount Cyanide to get the ten amendments."*
- *"One of "the opossums was St. Matthew who was also a taximan."*
- *"Samson slayed the Phillistines with the axe of the Apostles."*



A few more. . .

- *Jesus enunciated the Golden Rule which says to do one to others as they do one to you."*
- *"Solomon, one of David's Sons, had 300 wives and 700 porcupines."*
- *"Christians have only one spouse. This is called monotomy."*

Vocation

- There is a need to address the issue of vocation:

- Priesthood
- Religious Life
- Married Life
- Single Life



What does the curriculum being taught in *YOUR* school's classrooms reflect?



- Foundations of faith
- A secular society

Who do YOU say that I am?



Are you comfortable in
sharing your faith with
others? Do you include
faith values in your
conversations?

Do you want to be well?

Jn 5:6



How committed are you to
the mission of the
Catholic Church?

The Catholic School. .

- Must respond to the needs of the socially and economically disadvantaged.
- Must face the challenges of new forms of poverty

How do we reflect the mission of the Church?



Volunteers evacuate an injured resident from debris of a housing complex in Islamabad, Saturday.

B.K. Bangash / AP

How Do We Reflect the Mission of the Church?

At least 700 Shiite pilgrims die in Iraq panic

Victims, mostly women and children, killed in stampede on Baghdad bridge



Fear keeps Darfur refugees from going home

Despite new protections, threat of rape, murder by Arab militants persists

AP Associated Press

Updated: 3:09 p.m. ET Aug. 29, 2005

EL-GENEINA, Sudan - The killings and burnings of homes have diminished since terrified villagers in Sudan's West Darfur state fled to camps for the displaced and African Union soldiers arrived to protect them.

But a campaign of intimidation blamed on







How well do you promote outreach?

Today, Tomorrow and Forever

- Practice What you preach.
Make your Mission Statement
a lived reality.
- Create a Faith Community
centered on Dignity and
Respect.
- Create a Prayerful
Environment in your school
- Integrate faith values into
your conversations.
- Be conscious of content,
community, methods and
process in catechesis.—
- **TEACH AS JESUS TAUGHT**

Making A difference

 An old man walked up a shore littered with thousands of starfish, beached and dying after a storm. A young man was picking them up and flinging them back into the ocean. 

"Why do you bother?" the old man scoffed. "You're not saving enough to make a difference."

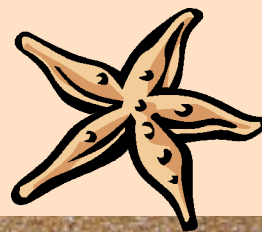




The young man picked up another starfish and sent it spinning back to the water.

"Made a difference to that one." he said.

You make a difference, every day.



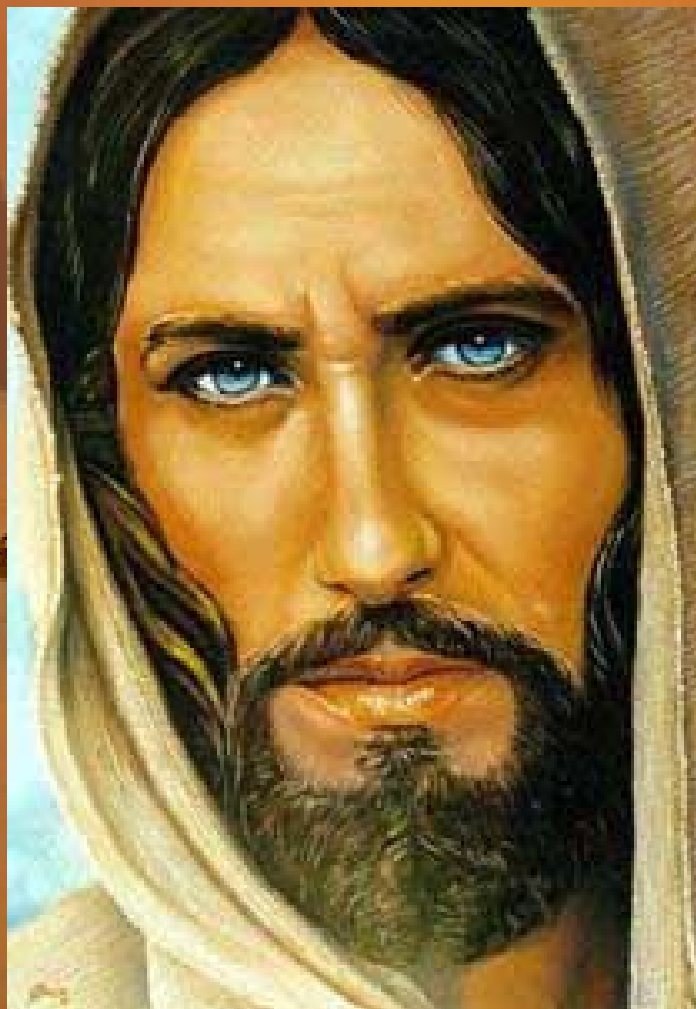
Who do YOU say
that I am?



Does your presence make a
difference in the vibrancy of the
Church life at _____ school?

Who do people say the
Son of Man is? . . .

Who do **YOU** say
that I am? Mt 16: 15, Lk 9:19



A rowing team of nine people is silhouetted against a bright sunset on a calm lake. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a strong reflection on the water. In the background, a dense forest of evergreen trees is visible under the orange and yellow sky.

Amen!!

You are called